

Export of Banana and Tapioca from Travancore.

384. MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): (a) Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Department of Industries has studied the question of sending out banana and tapioca from this country in any form more profitable than at present?

(b) If so, will they be pleased to arrange for the publication of such information as early as possible?

(c) If not, will they be pleased to order such an enquiry at an early date?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): (a) Yes.

(b) Leaflets embodying the results of the enquiries carried out in the Department of Industries will be published shortly.

(c) In view of the answers to parts (a) and (b), this question does not arise.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): May I know when these enquiries were set on foot?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): I am not able to give the exact date. It was sometime back and the enquiry is nearing completion.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): May I know roughly the year?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): Very recently.

MR. C. P. THOMAS (*Nominated*): Was it five years ago or ten years ago?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): Very recently.

Preponderance of Brahmins in the Office of the Director of Public Instruction.

385. MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): (a) Are the Government aware that owing to the disproportionate preponderance of Brahmins in the Office of the Director of Public Instruction, the interests of officers of the Department belonging to the other communities are not properly safeguarded?

(b) Will the Government be pleased to make an enquiry into the causes of the preponderance of Brahmin clerks in the Office of the Director of Public Instruction and in the offices subordinate thereto?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) The question does not arise in view of the answer to part (a).

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I know the total number of clerks in the office of the Director of Public Instruction?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The member is referred to the *Civil List*.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I know whether it is not a fact that there is a preponderance of Brahmin clerks in that office?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): That is a new question. The question already put is whether, owing to the disproportionate preponderance of Brahmins, the interests of officers belonging to other communities are not properly safeguarded. That question has been answered. Whether there is preponderance or not is a new question.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I know whether there is a large number of Brahmins?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The information has to be called for.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I have already sent a similar question along with this but it was not answered.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The answer to that question is not given because the information has not yet reached the Government.

*Preference to Persons who have passed the Account
• Test Examination.*

386. **MR. M. N. PILLAI** (*Trivandrum*): Do the Government insist on the heads of departments giving due preference in the matter of promotions, etc., to persons who have passed the Account Test Examination?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): The answer is "Yes." In connection with the two vacancies that occurred recently in the office of the Director of Public Instruction, may I know the name, service and qualifications of the clerks recommended for the post?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): I am unable to give the information.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): May I know the names and service of the clerks who applied for it?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): I have not got the names of the clerks.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Are the Government aware that there is a Government notification, No. 1422/23, dated the 2nd November, 1923, regarding the Account Test Examination? May I know why this rule was not strictly enforced in the matter of appointments?